



U.S. Army  
Corps of Engineers

# LORSS

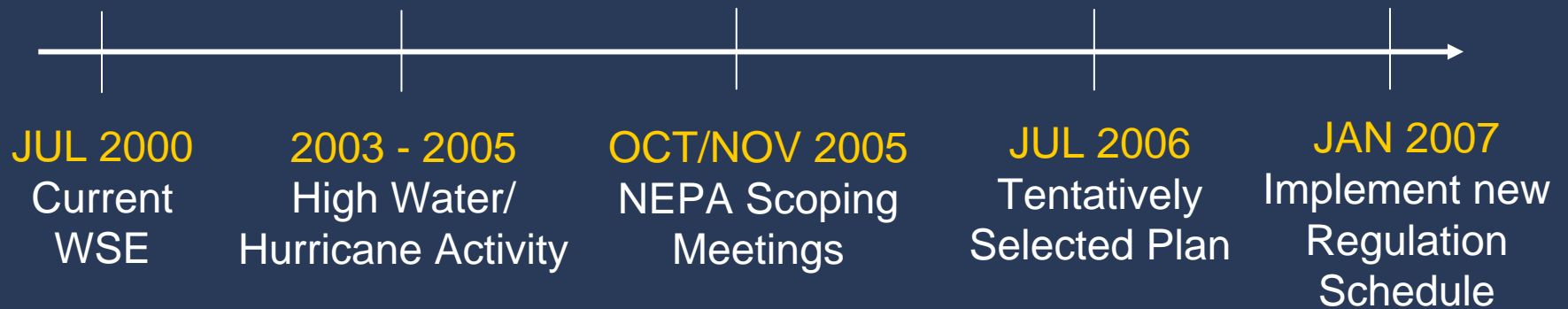
Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule Study

July 2006

# Agenda

- Background
- Public Meeting Summary
- Study
  - Objectives
  - Assumptions and Constraints
  - Alternatives
  - Performance Measures
- Tentatively Selected Plan
- Summary
- Questions

# Background



# Summary of Public Comments

- Supported plan to provide healthier lake
- Against plan due to high estuary releases
- Release water south
- Water quality throughout the state
- Increase storm water treatment areas and storage reservoirs
- Did not meet study goal and objectives
- Release constant flows / reduce high discharges
- Economic costs of high releases
- Pits lake community against coastal areas
- Account for wet weather cycle



# Study Goals & Objectives

Implement a new Lake Regulation Schedule supported by a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement by January 2007

Objectives of the new regulation schedule

- Ensure public health and safety
- Manage Lake Okeechobee at lower lake levels
- Reduce high regulatory releases to the estuaries
- Continue to meet Congressionally authorized project purposes

# Study Assumptions

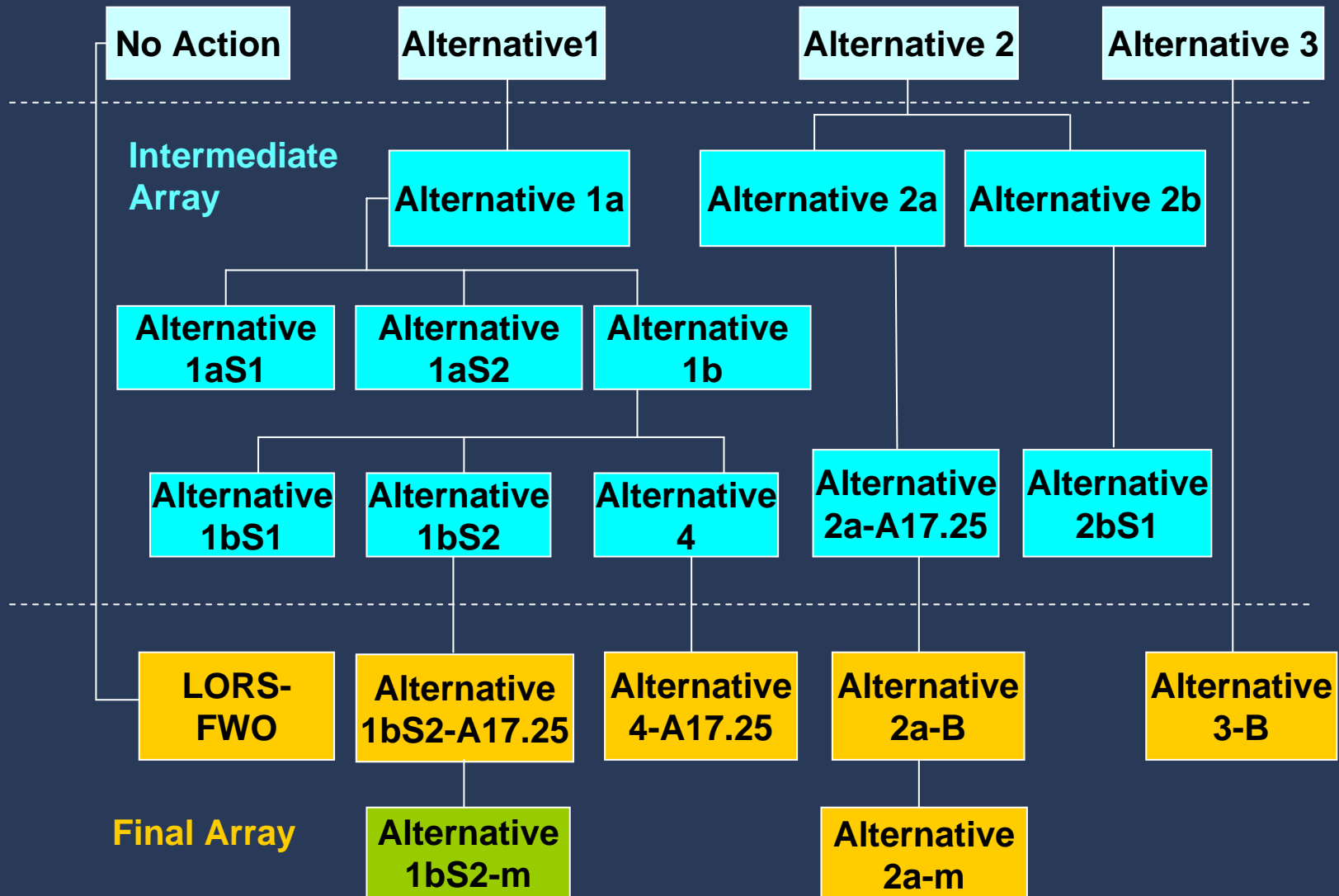
- Existing condition (2007)
- Operational guidelines consider period of record (1913 - current)
- Temporary forward pumps will be available by SFWMD
- SFWMD provided a surrogate for Supply Side Management line (lowered one foot)
- New schedule's anticipated period of use is 2007 - 2010
- Corps will initiate new Lake Okeechobee Regulation Study & EIS in 2007 to capture Acceler8 and other CERP Band 1 projects, and permanent forward pumps, scheduled for implementation in 2010

# Study Constraints

- Period of record is 36 years (1965 - 2000)
- Herbert Hoover Dike integrity (Lake not to exceed 17.25)
- Existing systems' conveyance capacity
- Stormwater Treatment Areas water quality treatment capacity (64,000 acre-feet annual average)
- Existing regulation schedules for water conservation areas and Kissimmee River chain of lakes

# Alternatives Evaluated

## Initial Array of Alternatives





# Final Array



# Tentatively Selected Plan

## 1bS2-m

- Allows for quicker response to inflows
- Reduces high lake conditions
- Improves optimum flow to the estuaries

# TSP 1bS2-m flexibility

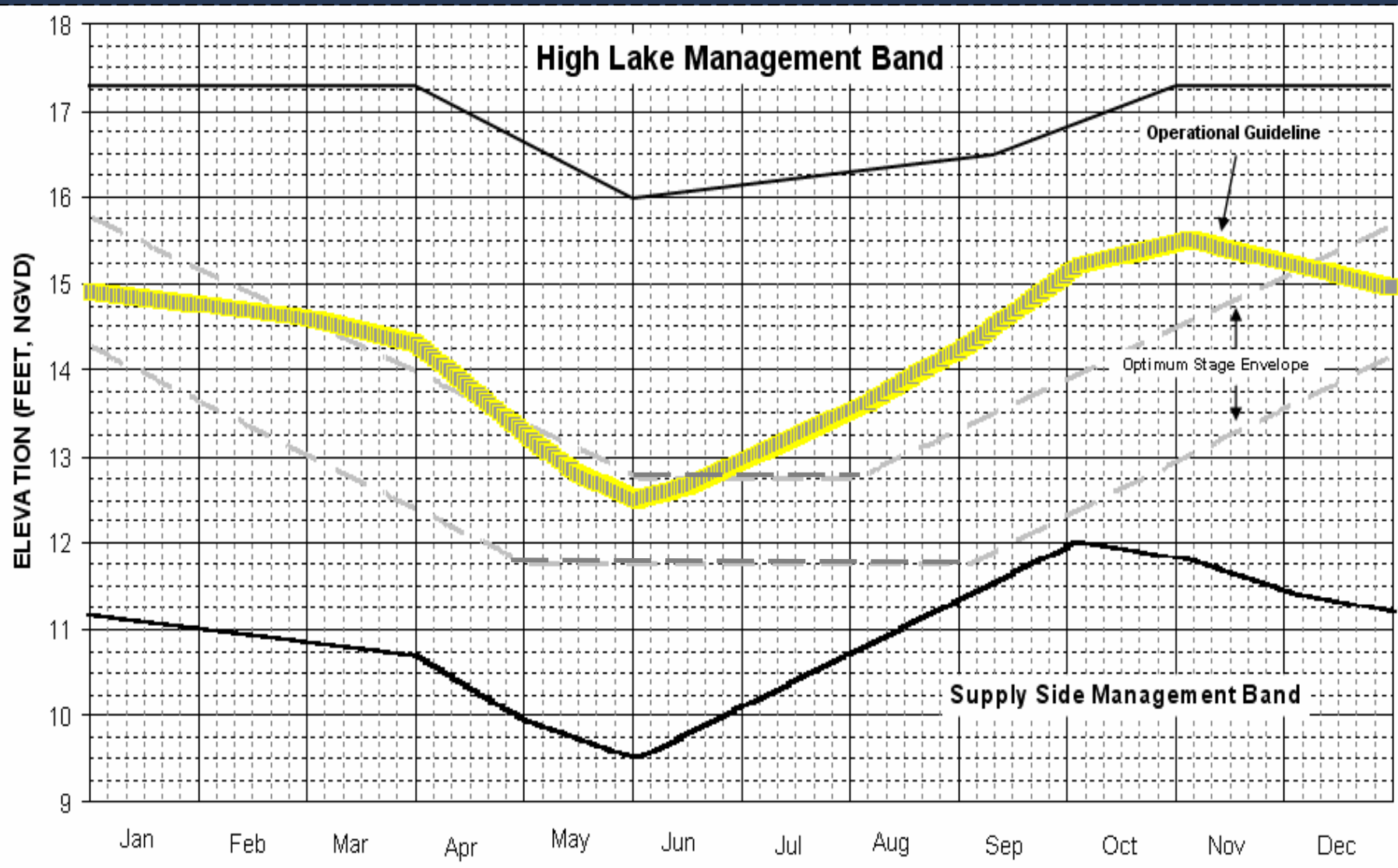
**High Lake Management Band:** Up to maximum capacity to tide and WCA

## **Operational Band:**

- **High Stage (15.35 - 17.25):** Up to maximum pulse releases to steady flow up to 6,500 at S-77 (*Moore Haven*); 2,800 cfs at S-80 (*St. Lucie*); and, WCA from 0 to max
- **Intermediate Stage (14.90 - 16.60):** From environmental base flow of 450 cfs to the Caloosahatchee Estuary up to 6,500 at S-77; releases from 0 up to 2,800 cfs at S-80; and, WCA from 0 to max
- **Low Stage/ Base Flow (9.50 - 16.15):** From no releases to environmental base flow of 450 cfs to the Caloosahatchee Estuary up to 4,500 at S-77; releases from 0 up to 1,800 cfs at S-80; and, WCA from 0 to max

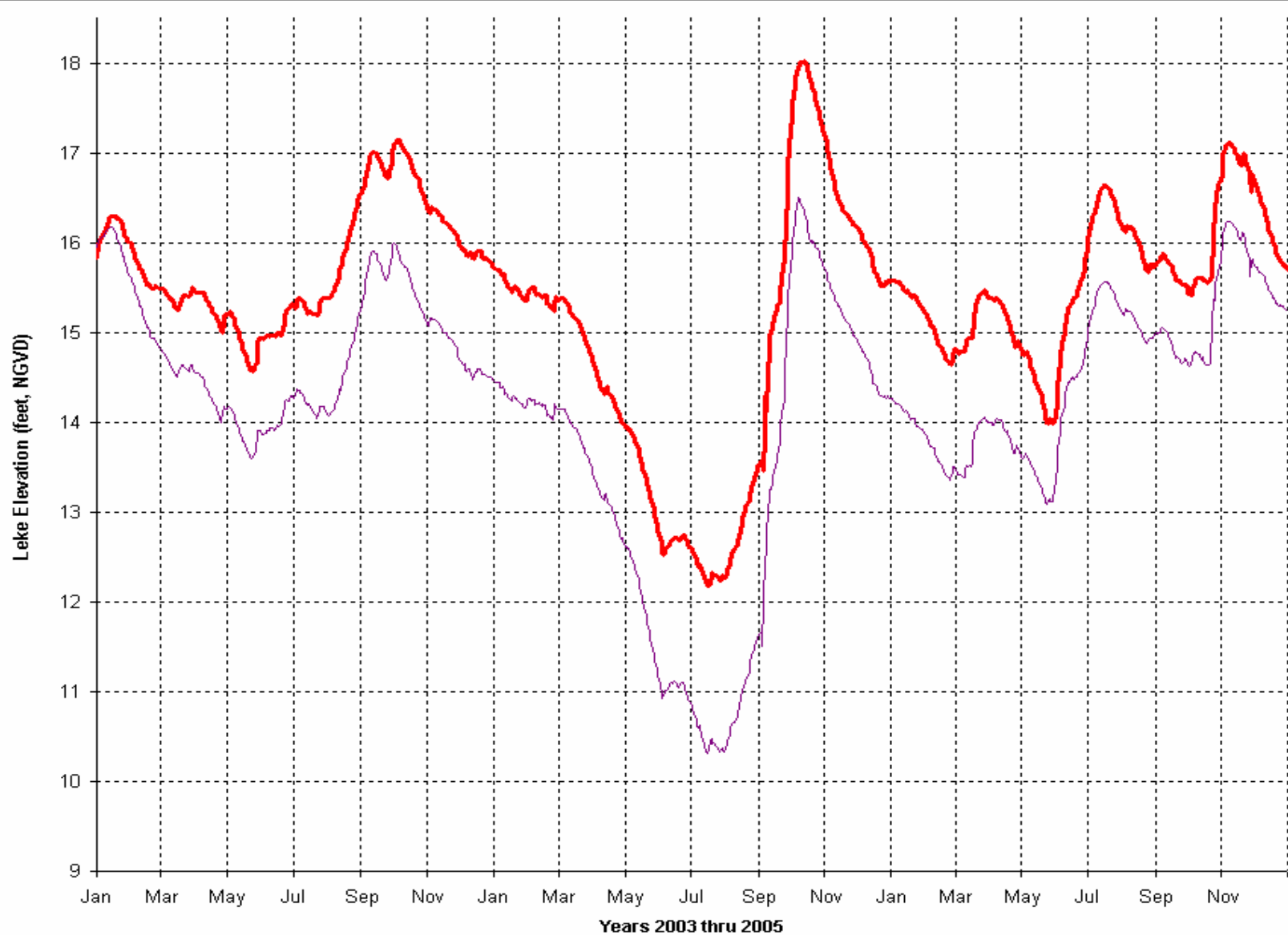
**Supply Side Management Band:** SFWMD water supply releases

# TSP 1bS2-m Regulation Schedule



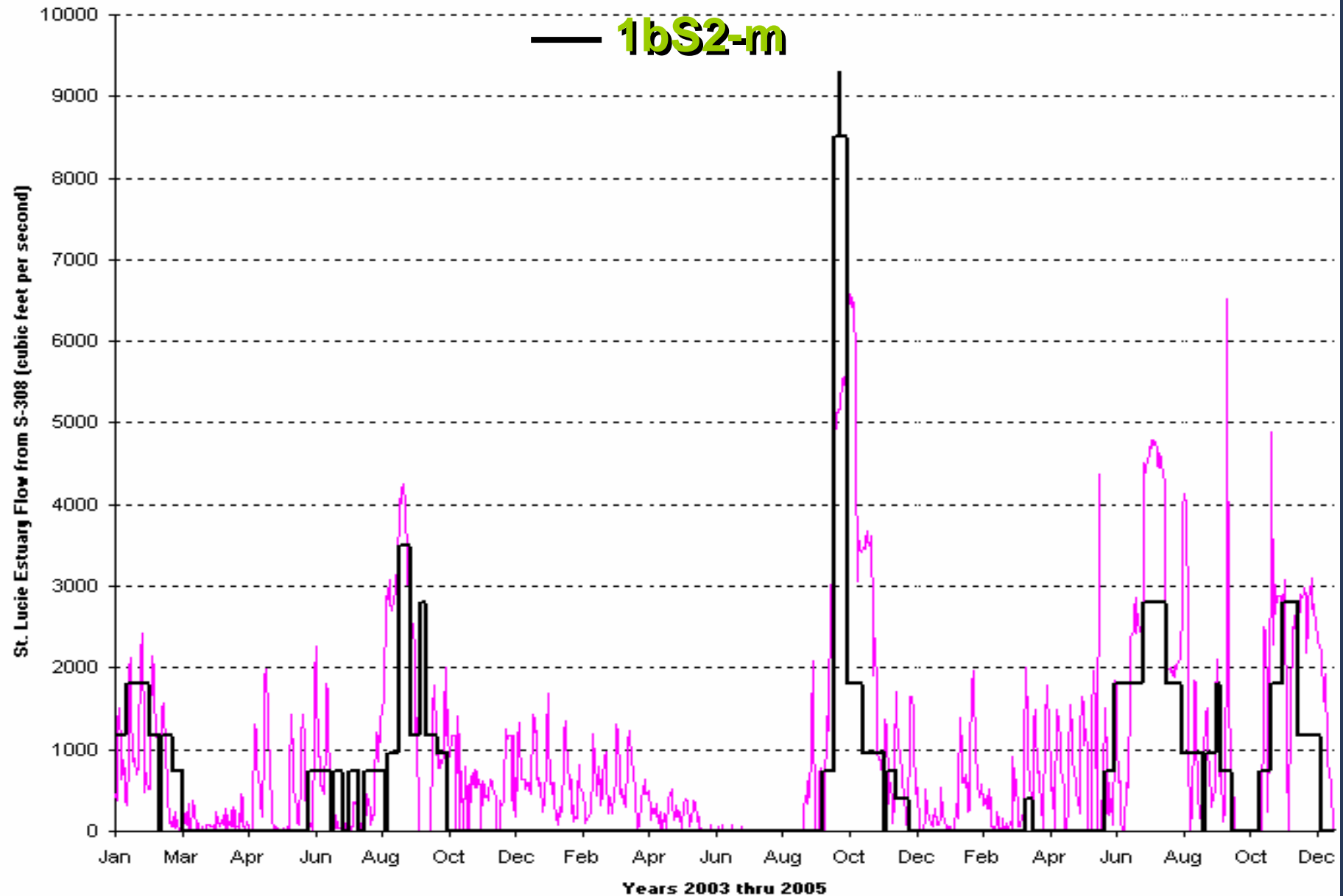
**Actual 2003-2005** —

**1bS2-M** —

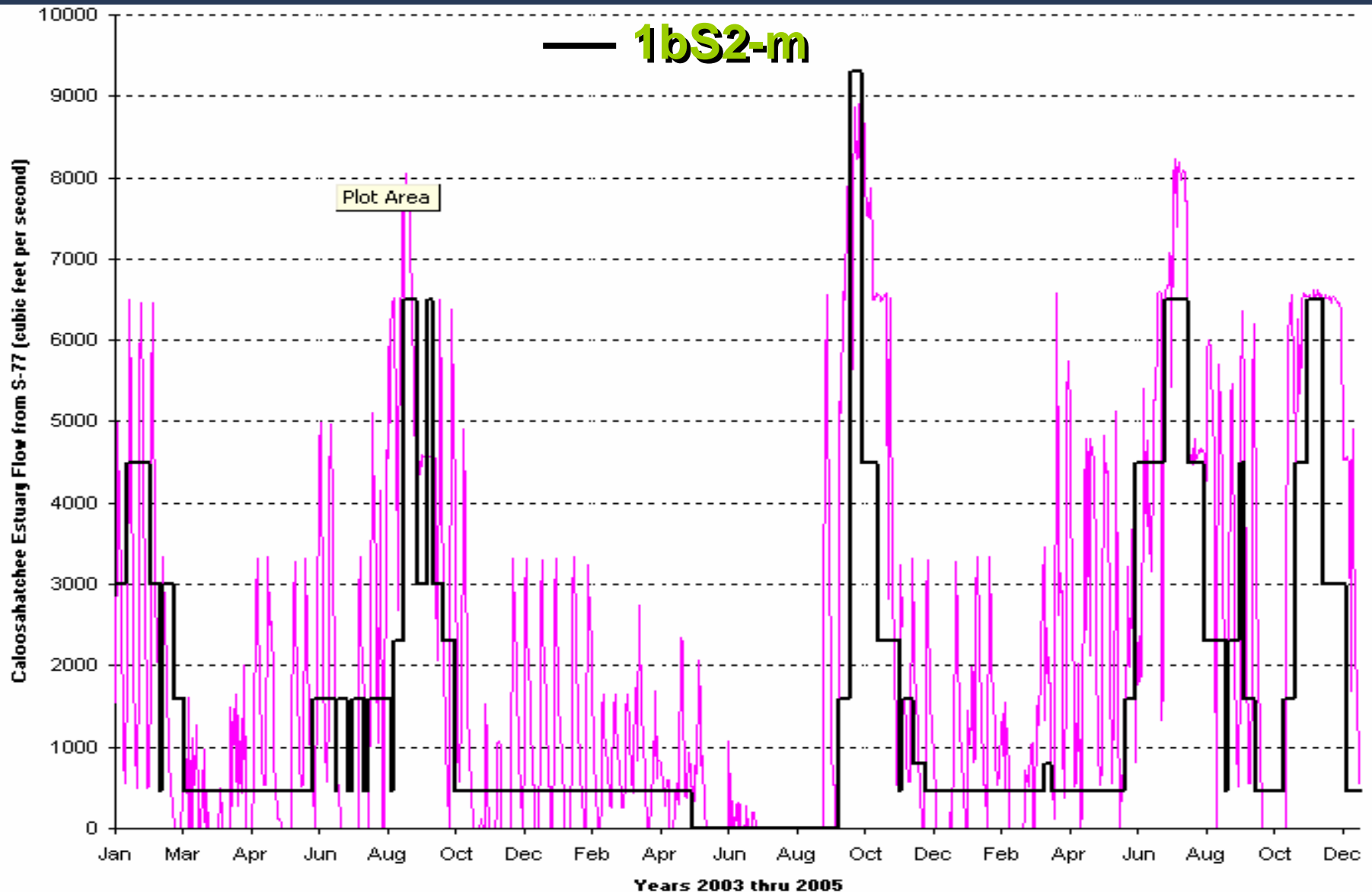




— **Actual 2003-2005 to St Lucie from the lake**



# Actual 2003-2005 to Caloosahatchee from the lake



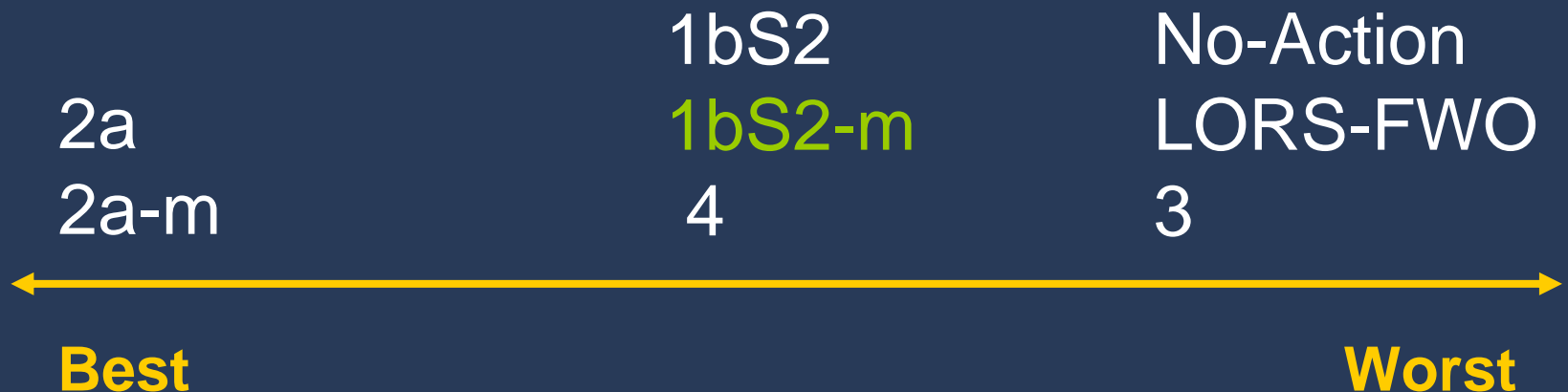
# Performance of Alternatives

- Evaluated using SFWM 2 x 2 Model
  - Uses 36-year period of record (1965 - 2000)
- Evaluated against CERP-based performance measures
  - Flood Control / Public Safety
  - Caloosahatchee Estuary
  - St. Lucie Estuary
  - Lake Okeechobee
  - Water supply
  - Navigation
  - Greater Everglades

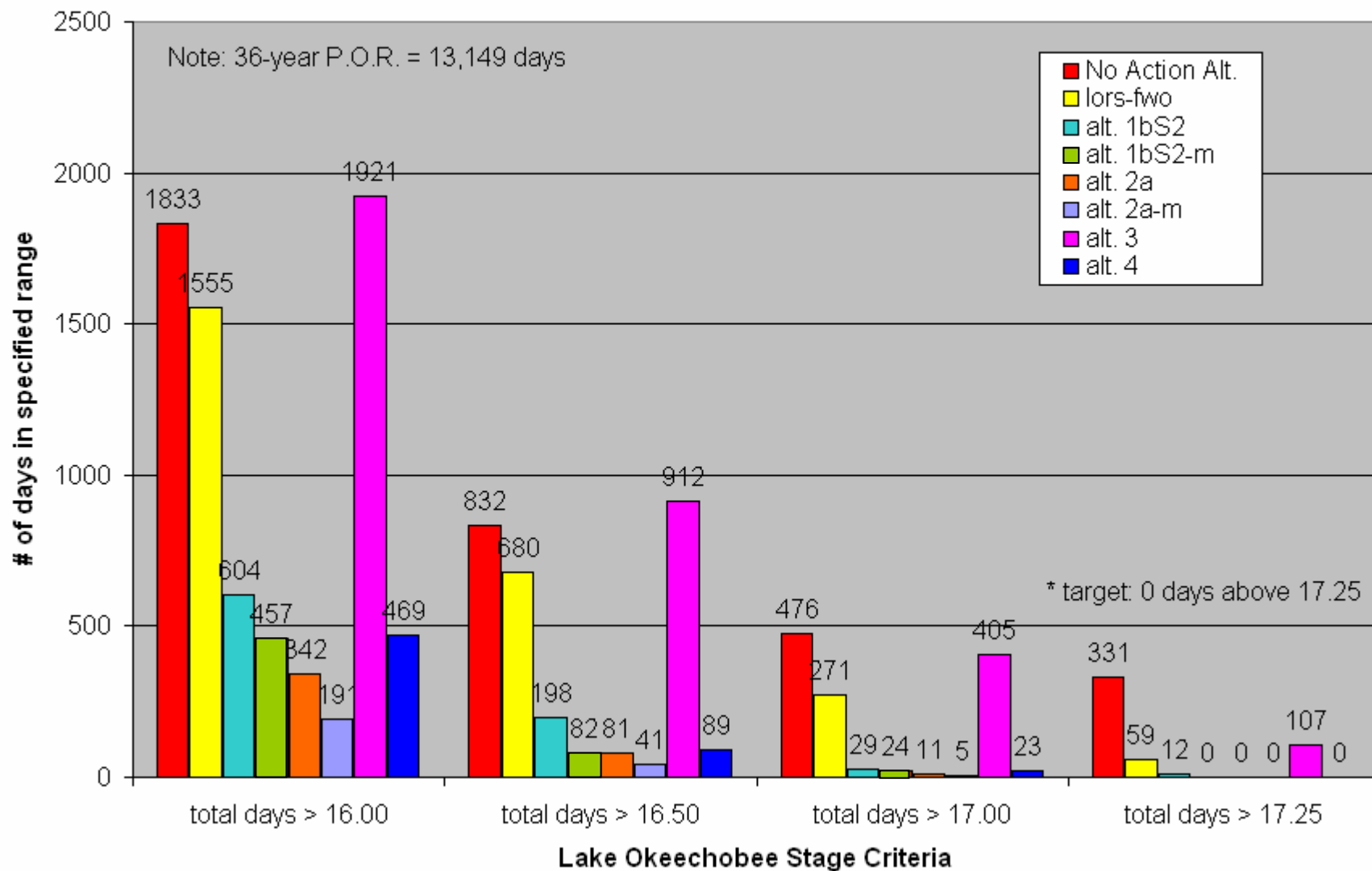
# Flood Control – Public Safety

16.00 to 17.25 lake elevations

- High trends in duration of days



# **LORSS Summary of Lake Okeechobee High Stages (>16.00), 36-year simulated period-of-record**





# Caloosahatchee Estuary

## 5 performance measures

- Four flow rate ranges (<450 cfs, **450 to 2800 cfs**, 2800 to 4500 cfs, and >4500 cfs)
- Mean Moving Weekly Flows >4500 cfs

3

LORS-FWO

1bS2

2a-m

2a

**1bS2-m**

4

No-Action

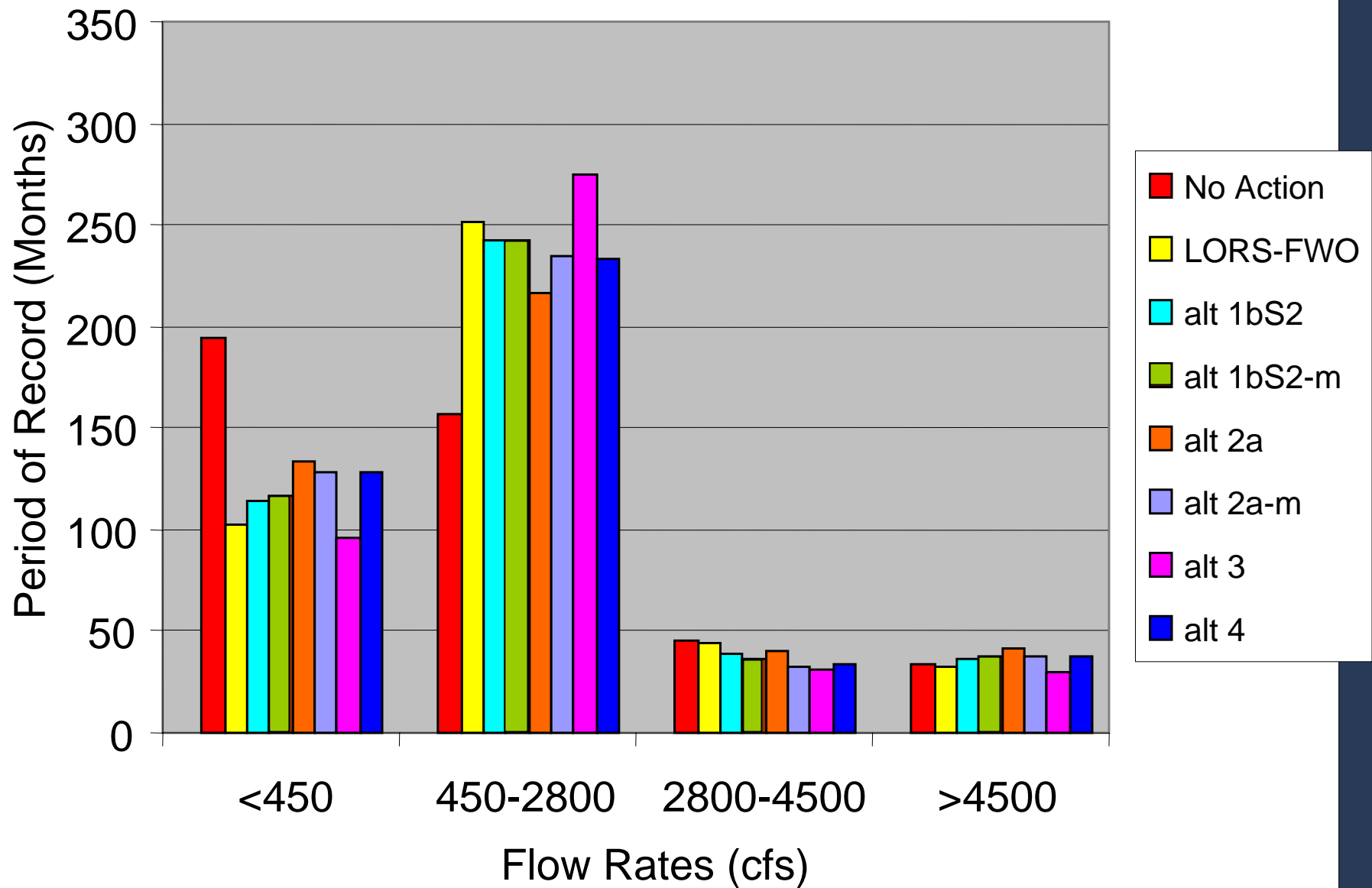


**Best**

**Worst**



# Caloosahatchee Estuary



# St. Lucie Estuary

## 5 performance measures

- Four flow rate ranges (<350 cfs, **350 to 2000 cfs**, 2000 to 3000 cfs, and >3000 cfs)
- Mean moving 2-week flows >3000 cfs

2a-m

**1bS2-m**

1bS2

4

LORS-FWO

3

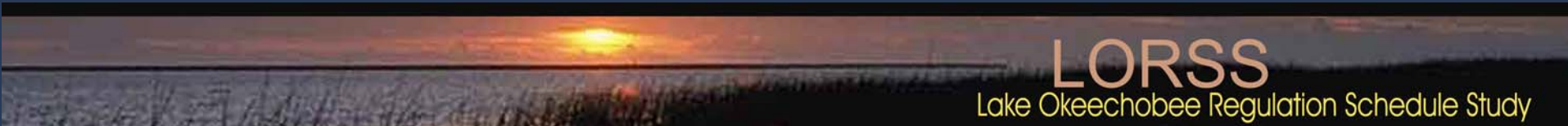
No-Action

2-a

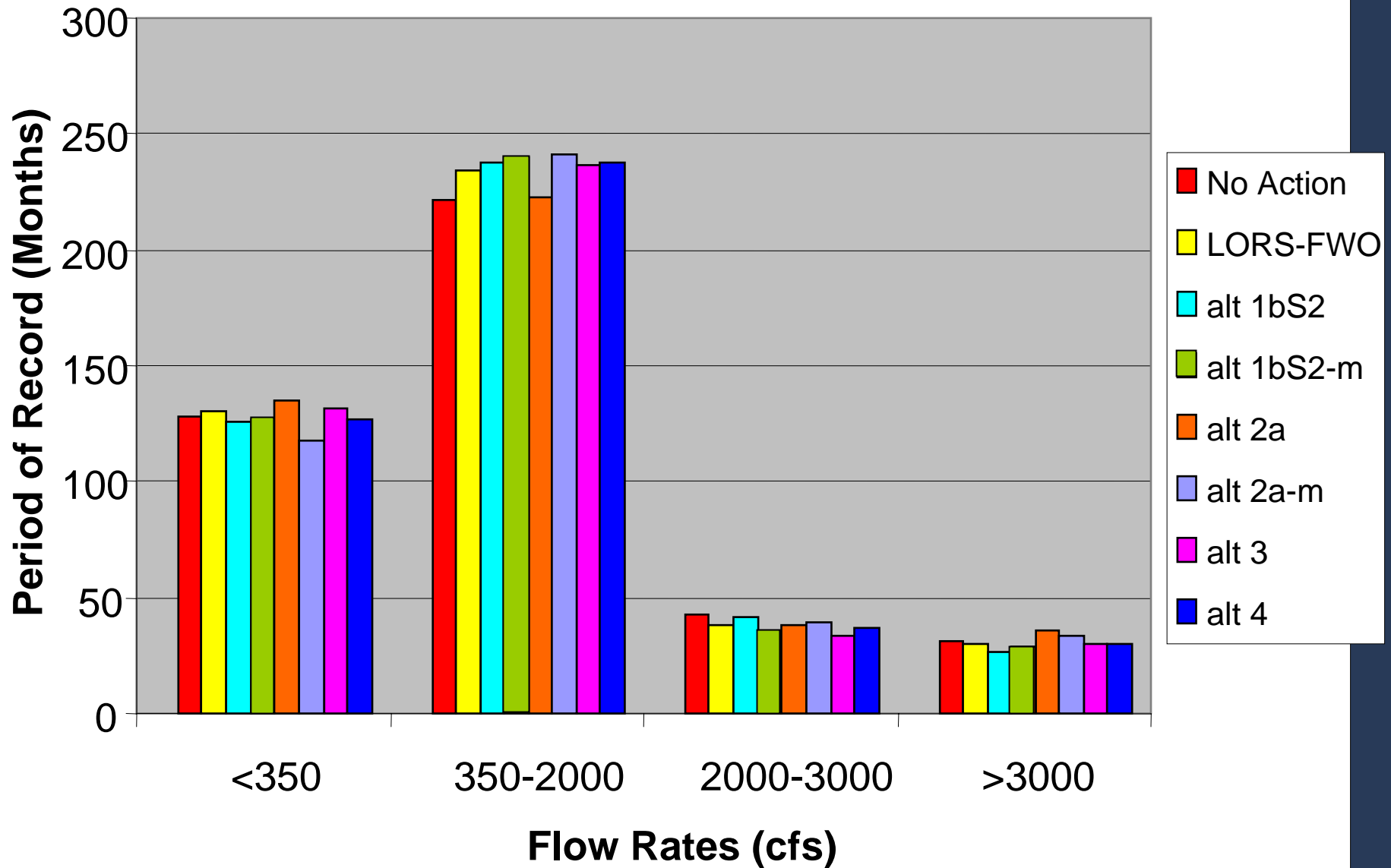


**Best**

**Worst**



## St. Lucie Estuary



# Lake Okeechobee

(Environmental Impacts)

6 performance measures

- Above stage envelope

2a

2a-m

4

1bS2-m

1bS2

LORS-FWO

No-Action

3



**Best**

**Worst**

LORSS

Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule Study



# Lake Okeechobee

## (Environmental Impacts)

### 6 performance measures

- Below stage envelope

LORS-FWO  
No-Action  
3

1bS2-m  
1bS2

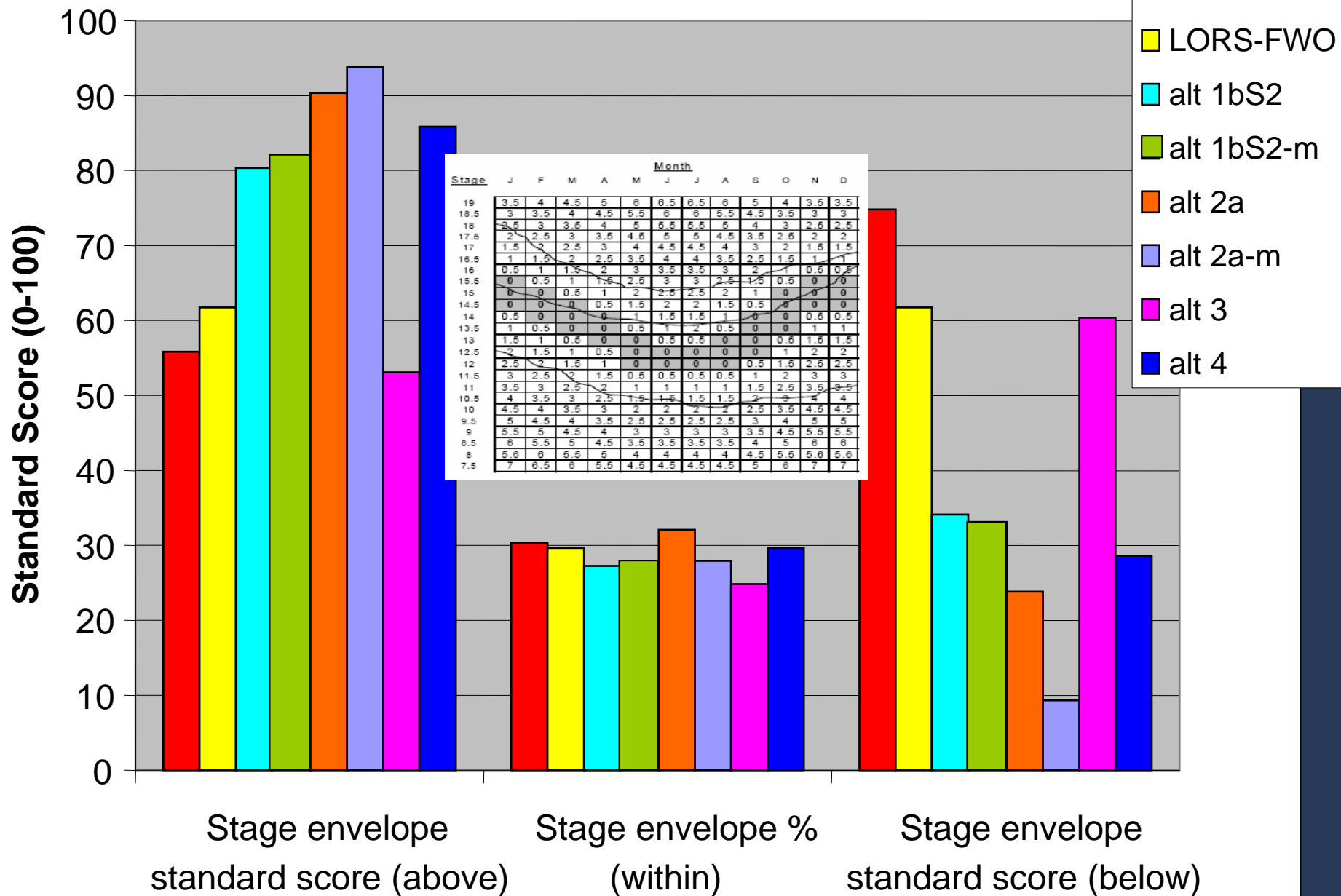
2a  
2a-m  
4



**Best**

**Worst**

# Stage Envelope Standard Score (Above, Within, Below)



# Water Supply

(EAA / LOSA)

## 9 performance measures

- Focus on three additional primary measures recommended by SFWMD

No-Action  
LORS-FWO

3

1bS2

1bS2-m

4

2a

2a-m



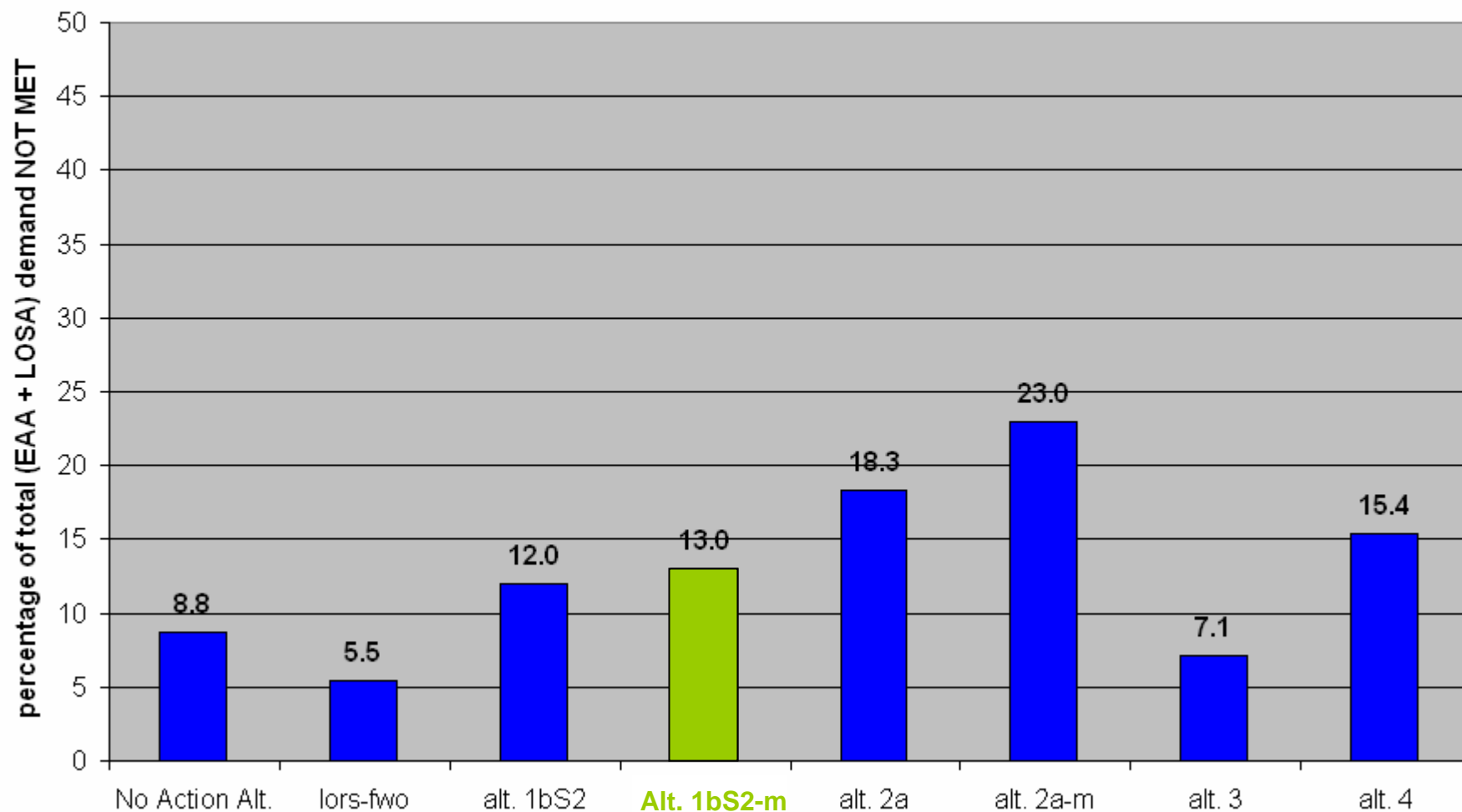
**Best**

**Worst**

LORSS

Lake Okeechobee Regulation Schedule Study

**Mean Annual EAA and LOSA Supplemental Irrigation: Demands and Demand Not Met from 1965-2000 for Drought Years: 1971 1975 1981 1985 1989**



# Navigation

All alternatives increased the number of days that the lake fell below 12.56





# Greater Everglades

## 5 performance measures

- Peat dry-out, reversals, tree island, recessions, snail kite

1bS2

3

LORS-FWO

1bS2-m

4

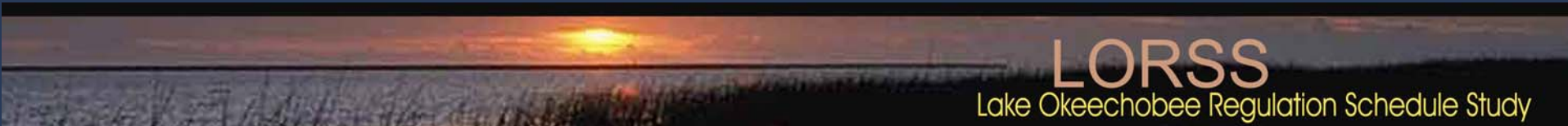
2a

2a-m



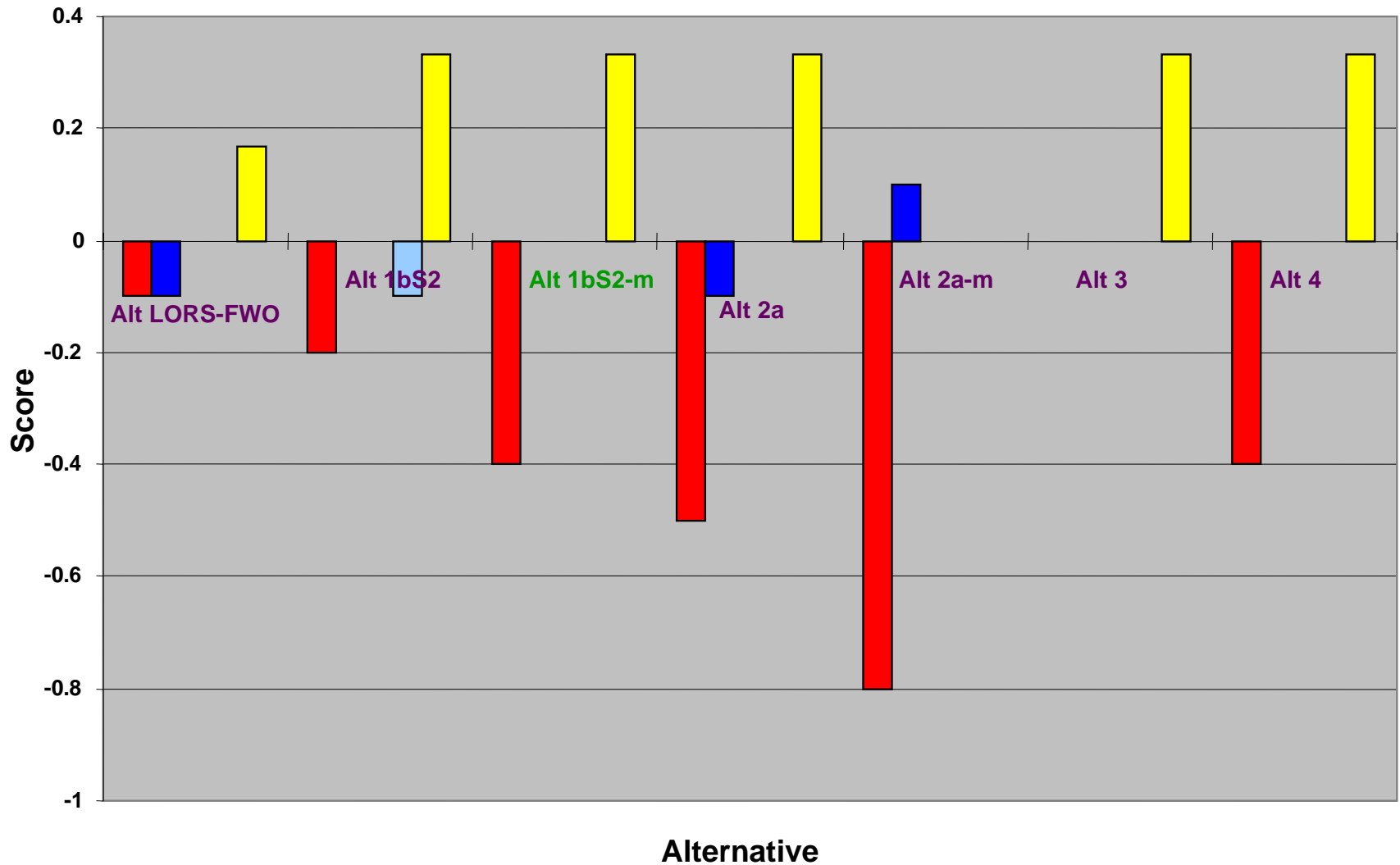
**Best**

**Worst**



# Greater Everglades Performance Measures

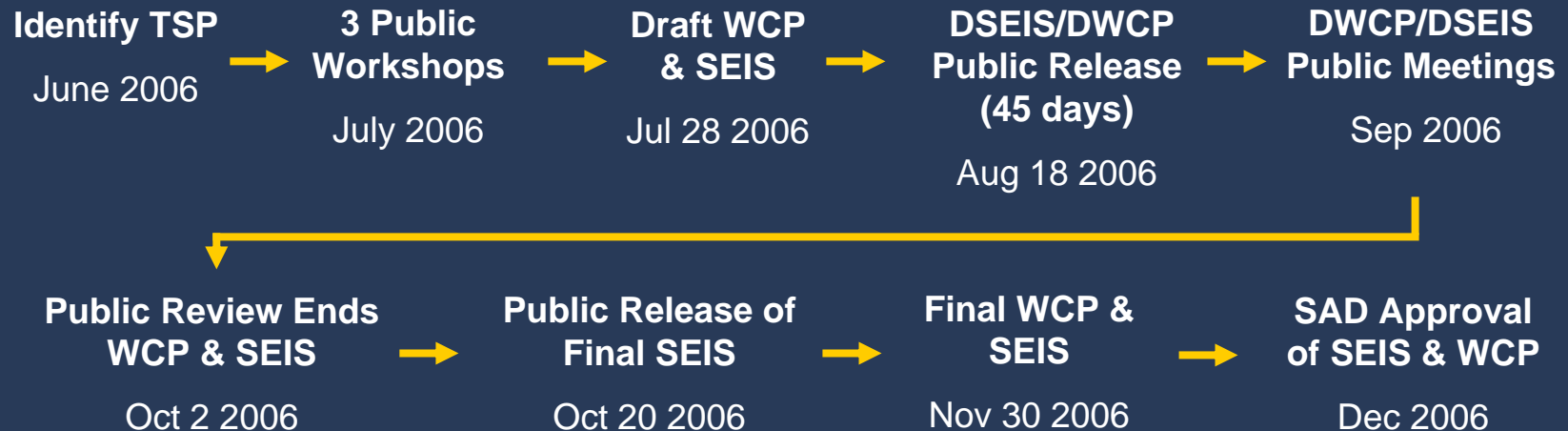
1-Peat dry-out    2-Reversals    3-Tree island inundation    4-Recessions    5-Snail kite



# Final Analysis

- Alternatives
  - LORS-FWO, 3
  - 2-a, 2a-m, 4
  - 1bS2
- **1bS2-m**
  - Best balance to meet objectives

# Milestone Schedule



DWCP - Draft Water Control Plan

DSEIS - Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

WCP - Water Control Plan

SEIS - Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

CAR - Coordination Act Report - Fish and Wildlife Service

# Public Coordination

- 45-day public comment period for draft SEIS and WCP begins in August
- Regional public meetings in September

# Public Comments

Jacksonville District website  
[www.saj.usace.army.mil](http://www.saj.usace.army.mil)

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# Questions?

